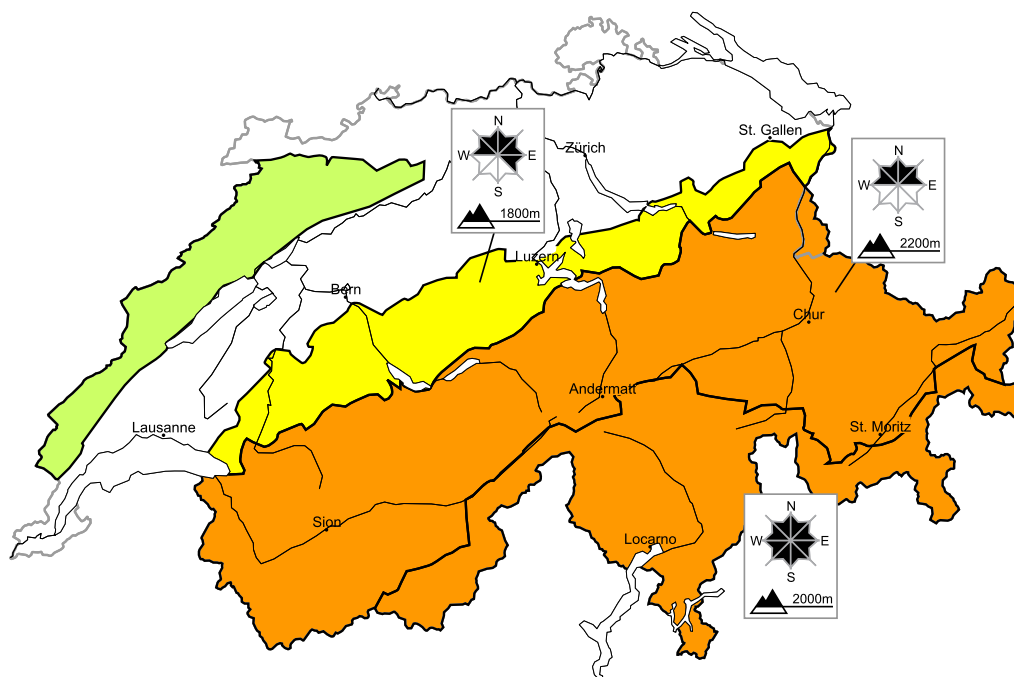


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 11.3.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 11.3.2018, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 11.3.2018, 08:00



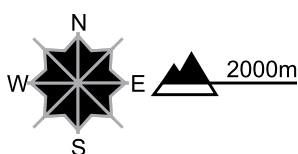
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. As the day progresses as the snowfall becomes more intense there will be a significant increase in the avalanche danger. An increasing number of small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized natural avalanches are to be expected. In the evening danger level 4 (high) will be reached from Val Bregaglia to the Bernina region. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Full-depth avalanches

Below approximately 2400 m individual full-depth avalanches are possible, including quite large ones.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

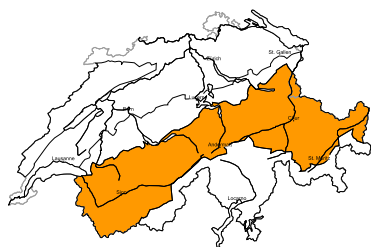
5 very high



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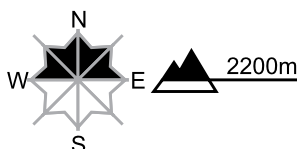
region B

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the sometimes storm force wind the snow drift accumulations will increase in size additionally. These are to be found also areas not adjacent to the ridge line. They are in some cases prone to triggering. Deeper layers of the snowpack can be released by a single winter sport participant in some places. These avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

Below approximately 2400 m full-depth and wet avalanches are possible.

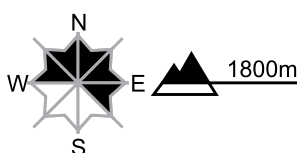
region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

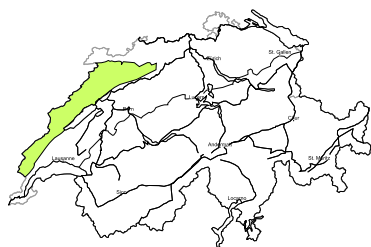
As a consequence of the sometimes storm force wind further snow drift accumulations will form, in particular at elevated altitudes. Deeper layers of the snowpack can be released in isolated cases and mostly by large additional loads. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

Full-depth and wet avalanches are possible.

region D

Level 1, low



Wet avalanches

As a consequence of the rain individual moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 10.3.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

In southern regions, fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts are prone to triggering. As a result of the persistent snowfall there, avalanche danger is expected to increase significantly during the course of the day.

In northern regions, snowdrift accumulations are continuing to be generated and grow in size and spread at high altitudes as a result of the intermittently storm-strength southerly wind, including in locations far distant from ridgelines. The freshly generated snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering.

In addition to that, more deeply embedded inside the snow cover, particularly on shady slopes, are weak layers consisting of faceted snow crystals or blanketed surface hoar. Avalanches can also be triggered from these deeper weak layers. These avalanche prone locations inside the old snow are nearly impossible to recognize.

As a result of heightened temperatures and rainfall from region to region, wet-snow and gliding avalanches can be expected below approximately 2400 m.

Observed weather on Saturday, 10.03.2018

Skies were overcast. During the course of the day there was a small amount of precipitation over widespread areas. The snowfall level in northern regions was 2000 m; in southern regions, 1500 m.

Fresh snow

In northern regions above approximately 2000 m, in southern regions above approximately 1500 m, only a few centimeters of snow over widespread areas, maximum 10 cm in the northern and furthestmost western parts of Lower Valais.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -2 °C on the southern flank of the Alps and +3 °C in the remaining regions of Switzerland.

Wind

Winds on the northern Alpine Ridge, in western Lower Valais and in Grisons were blowing at moderate to strong velocity, in other regions of Switzerland at light to moderate strength, from southerly directions.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 11.03.2018

In southern regions, persistent snowfall is anticipated. The snowfall level will ascend temporarily from 1200 m to 1600 m. In the foehn-exposed regions of the north, bright intervals are anticipated during the morning hours. In other regions, skies will be heavily overcast. Above approximately 2000 m, a small amount of snowfall is expected from place to place.

Fresh snow

Between Saturday evening and Sunday evening in southern regions above approximately 1800 m, in northern regions above approximately 2200 m, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow are expected:

- central sector of the southern flank of the Alps, Avers, Val Bregaglia, Bernina region, Val Poschiavo: 30 to 50 cm;
- regions bordering to the north, Upper Valais section of the Main Alpine Ridge along the Italian border: 20 to 30 cm;
- remaining parts of the Main Alpine Ridge: 10 to 20 cm;
- north of the Main Alpine Ridge: less; or else it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +5 °C in northern regions and -1 °C in southern regions.

Wind

- Winds in northern regions and at high altitude in general will be blowing at strong to storm velocity from southerly directions and strong foehn wind will also prevail, slackening off during the afternoon;
- winds in southern regions at intermediate altitudes will be blowing at light to moderate strength from the south.

Outlook through Tuesday, 13.03.2018

On Monday, skies will be predominantly overcast. Above approximately 1300 m, intermittent snowfall is anticipated. In southern regions there will be bright intervals in the afternoon. On Tuesday in northern regions, intermittent snowfall is expected above approximately 1000 m. In southern regions it will be partly sunny.

The danger of dry-snow avalanches will diminish somewhat over widespread areas. As a result of the temperatures dropping, the danger of wet-snow avalanches will also decrease. Isolated gliding avalanches continue to be possible.